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AN ISLAND PARK.

Senator CHANDLER asked THE WORLD for evidence of the fact that the people of this city desire the setting apart of Liberty Island as a public park.

This evidence was furnished to the Senator and by him presented to the Senate yesterday in the shape of a petition 60,000 strong, secured and forwarded by THE WORLD, asking the Government to convert the home of Liberty's Statue into a free park for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. There is little doubt that this will be done, and that this city will secure what it needs—a public pleasure resort in its beautiful harbor.

THE WORLD will thus have performed three distinct services to the city and the country in this matter. It raised the money to build the pedestal for Liberty's Island; it saved the island from disgrace by immigrant barracks, and it has now supplied the basis for its dedication as a public park.

THE AMUSEMENTS OF THE POOR.

At the season of the year those who are blessed with the goods of this world are flitting from this town to soon to palatial with the hot parching heat of Summer to the cool seashore or the pure air of the mountains. They leave homes filled with luxury and comfort for hotels or villas, where new and varied luxuries and comforts await them.

These are the chosen few, the thousands at best. The hundred thousands remain in the city to endure all that Summer may bring of discomfort.

Nothing better becomes a large and wealthy municipality than provision for its poor. Not the almshouse, no! But sources of innocent, healthful amusement. The lives of these toilers are hard and painful. They work continually to support an existence which is barren of delights.

Much more may be done to alleviate their lot. It is a common excuse with the rich that they are constantly called on for charities. But where the city supplies the needed recreation, the citizens should not begrudge their share of the money which is requisite for these humble pleasures of the poor.

New York does two things which are admirable in their way, but there is no reason why others should not be added to these. Free baths and music in the parks are two immense boons to the crowded tenements. Another charity which has received attention is the care of sick babies. The poor child's "Country Week" is a beautiful benevolence. But there still remains a large field for humane charity in ministering to the little brothers and sisters who are stricken with poverty. Oh, you who are rich, think a little of those who are indigent. Your own lives will be the happier.

AWAITING THE DEFENSE.

For refusing to act upon complaints of the City Reform Club the Excise Commissioners were indicted by the Grand Jury yesterday under that section of the Penal Code which provides that the neglect of any public officer to perform his duty shall be considered a misdemeanor.

The Reform Club members constituted themselves into a private detective agency, went in and among saloons on election day, drank, measured distances from saloons to polling places, and then, armed with complaints against nearly one hundred saloons, went to the Excise Commissioners and demanded that the complaints be attended to.

The Commissioners took the evidence cheerfully, read them all and—fled them away, apparently, for nothing was ever done.

This did not suit the Reform Club, which at once took the matter to court, and by mandamus proceedings compelled action in one case, while others were allowed to expire by time limitation.

There are many city office candidates among the accused saloon-keepers, and perhaps "influence" was brought to bear

to keep their cases quiet. At any rate, the movement of the Reform Club was a timely one, and the public are awaiting the defense.

According to the Street-Cleaning Department figures there has been an enormous increase of expenses during the first four months of this year, with little reason to show for it than for the corresponding period of last year. This is caused by unvarnished extravagance, an important item of which is over \$15,000 paid for unloading scows, which, under COLEMAN's regime, were dumped free of charge. Another point is noticeable. Despite the added expenses, there has been a decrease of 463 miles of sweeping below Fourteenth street, and by the Department's own figures, there are 243 miles of sweeping which cannot be accounted for. What's the trouble, Mr. BEATTIE?

The children in Brooklyn public schools have chosen golden rod as the emblematic State flower. Their choice is not unwise, for the golden rod is a strong illustration of democratic principles. It does not require hot-house nurturing, but is a sturdy and beautiful plant, equally at home between railroad ties or in a greenhouse. What is more beautiful than the nodding fields of golden rod which line the shores of the majestic Hudson for miles in midsummer?

Justice MURRAY insists that he will get back into the County Democracy and the County Democracy insists that he will not. It will be interesting to watch developments.

Once more the Fasset Committee is loading its guns, and on Monday they will be again directed against Mayor GRANT.

SPOTLIGHTS.
In a duel over a girl one young man was shot to death and the other mortally wounded. The young man on hearing the sad tidings promptly married another fellow. She was one of the kind that gets left.

Queen Victoria is a cheerful old lady. She stopped her carriage near Windsor to enjoy a tear dance, and laughed heartily at its antics. Albert Edward, who was also in the carriage, didn't.

The Belgian Government has made hypocritical threats, unless for healing purposes. What a blow to a new rising industry.

Why doesn't some one apply a battery to the Board of Electrical Control? Perhaps a shock would move it.

A saloon man's wife has eloped with a butcher because he won her the cooking. The butcher had better buy a cock or the grocer or milkman may get her.

"Please give me a copper, sir!"
"But the copper came with club in hand and married him!"
—Tues. St. Regis.

After receiving the permit of Albany, Stanley is about to risk matrimony. But he is daring or nothing.

The poor Madison Square Garden ballet girls will now have to pay \$5,000 to get their costumes from the Custom House. Their duties come high, poor things.

Senator Farrell's floor was beaten by Senator Cameron's straight flush in a little Washington poker game. There is no certainty in cards even in Senatorial hands.

A young woman took poison last night, and when it hurt screamed and was pumped out. This is her fourth effort in this line; but if she enjoys it we can't complain.

Mrs. Leslie should wed De Lerville, for with their advertising ability combined what could approach them? Yet the lady calls that the last report of these oft-announced nuptials is not true.

A Hamburg man, whose wife left him, has chased her across the sea. Some people never know when they are well off.

POLITICAL ECHOES.

The O'Brien Republicans of the Eighth Assembly District are the insurers of Harry Stamer's Congressional hopes and they expect to get the Tammany Hall nomination in Judge McCarthy's district.

Tammany Hall leader James F. Barker, of the Thirtieth Assembly District, was prepared for his convention for the nomination of the Assembly. He had a resignation from the organization in the hands of Secretary McCall, but before his case was given to the jury.

"I've been knocking about in city office of one of our Senators for more than twenty years, and I never saw a time when there was so little money for the office-holder, outside his salary, as during the past year and a half," said a veteran official of the municipality to-day.

Secretary John C. Sheehan, the Agent-General, and brother of William F. Sheehan, of Buffalo, the Democratic leader in the Assembly, is the probable successor of ex-Alderman Barker as Tammany leader in the Thirtieth Assembly District.

At the Thirtieth Street-Cleaning Committee meeting held at the place, but his intimates do not imagine for an instant that he will be chosen. Whoever is the leader in that district will fraternize with the Gibbs-Meade Republicans.

WORLDLINGS.

Count Tolstai has nine children, the eldest of whom is a pretty girl of fourteen. All of the members of the family speak English fluently.

The charred stump of "Old Sequoia," the giant of California forests, is 41 feet in diameter. It has been calculated that the tree must have been nearly 500 feet in height.

Says a writer in the Epoch: "Mrs. J. L. G. Pitkin, the wife of the new Minister to the Argentine Republic, describes Buenos Ayres as the most extravagant and expensive city in the world. Outrages rent for \$300 a month; tomatoes cost a gold dollar apiece and everything else in proportion."

One of the prettiest of Canadian belles is Mrs. M. Mackay, of Ottawa. She is described as "lovely, petite blonde, with curly golden hair, dark blue eyes and a Dresden china complexion."

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Marion C. Sternbach recently won a handsome cigar cup on account of his prowess in winning three exciting sets of lawn tennis at the Tennis Building, this city. The set took 6-3, 6-4 and 6-2 in his favor.

Tom Kowack will represent the New Jersey Athletic Club at the middle distance this season. "Tommy" stands at the head of his class in point of popularity.

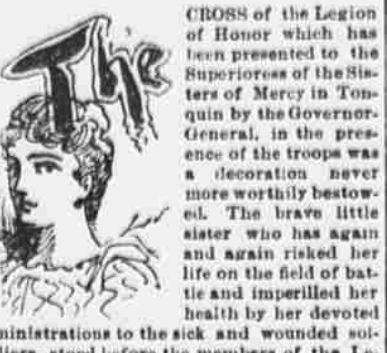
Jimmy Hughes, known all over this part of the country as one of the crack wrestlers of the Athletic Club, is also a fine oarsman. He has also made his mark as a walker.

Oliver Stevens handles the sculls well as he has a way at the famous "diamond scull" trophy in the single shell event at the Madison regatta.

THE WAYS OF WOMAN FAIR.

Fads, Fashions and Fancies that Interest the Ladies.

The Bestowal of the Legion of Honor to a Sister of Mercy in Tonguin.



CROSS of the Legion of Honor which has been presented to the Superior of the Sisters of Mercy in Tonguin by the Governor-General, in the presence of the troops was a decoration never more worthily bestowed. The brave little sister, who has again and again risked her life on the field of battle and imperiled her health by her devoted ministrations to the sick and wounded soldiers, stood before the members of the Legion, the many troops and commissioners of war in her simple habit and listened with evident emotion to the Governor-General's presentation speech, which ran as follows: "Sister Maria Theresa, you were only twenty years of age when you first gave your service to the wounded and the dying, and were wounded in the execution of your duty. You were again wounded at Mergents. You bravely nursed the wounded all through our wars in Syria, China and Mexico. You were carried off the field at Worth, and before you recovered from your injuries you were again performing your duties. When a great field into your ambulance, you, without hesitation, took it up in your hands and carried it to a distance of one hundred yards from the ambulance, when it exploded, wounding you severely. No soldier has ever performed his duty more heroically than you have done, or lived more successfully for his comrades and his country. I have the honor to present you, in the name of France and the French army, with the cross which is only conferred upon those who have shown remarkable bravery in action. Soldiers, present arms." Such sacrifices keep alive one's faith in humanity; it is a record to true woman can read without feelings of pride and thankfulness.

The embarrassment of riches is felt in the dreamy toiles designed for the Summer campaign. Ask a French modiste to advise you and she will suggest a white study—white with blue, white with gold, white and silver, white with mauve, white with white with diamond-dusted white. Get pearl-white, my dear, oyster-shell white with your Titian hair, cream-white with those marvelous dark eyes, or &c., &c., &c.

Small sprays of white hydrangeas, white locust, peach blossoms, petunias and little daisies are new for millinery, while snowballs, violets, cowslips, lilacs and daffodils are used for ballroom garniture as reception and dancing dresses.

They freeze water crosses in the water ices and hard punch served at well dejeuner.

Here is a description of a Washington lady's bedroom. It is irregular in shape, with a deep fireplace and two or three alcoves. At the right on entering is the couch, and instead of being tucked and huddled into a corner, as in former days, it stands well out in the room, with almost an equal space on either side. The frame is covered with a deep blue velvet, lined with gold, and from them hang pendant tassels of white and blue. The room is decorated with the finest of blue Canton crepe, the floor is of white lacquer, the bed is of white lacquer, the bed is of white lacquer, the bed is of white lacquer.

There are no blankets on the bed, but, instead, two downy blue comforters, which pile up as weightless as snow. On one side of the bed is a door leading into the bathroom, and on the other side one connecting with the room where the girl's pretty gown are hung. Across the room from the bed is a wide divan covered with French cretonne of white and blue. It stands diagonally in the room and is piled up with cushions. The bureau is of white and gold, the handbag being entirely gold. It is a joy affair with swinging earg-shaped mirror. On it are perfume and jewel cases of solid silver, and in the low dresser, which is just opposite, the race for silver articles is further illustrated, for there are dozens of nicotines, silver hand-mirrors, all finished in solid silver. The dresser has a deep valance of blue velvet. Beyond it is a writing-desk of white and gold, with silver candlestick, ink tankard and boxes of tiny note-paper. The bureau is of white and gold, the handbag being entirely gold. It is a joy affair with swinging earg-shaped mirror. On it are perfume and jewel cases of solid silver, and in the low dresser, which is just opposite, the race for silver articles is further illustrated, for there are dozens of nicotines, silver hand-mirrors, all finished in solid silver. The dresser has a deep valance of blue velvet. Beyond it is a writing-desk of white and gold, with silver candlestick, ink tankard and boxes of tiny note-paper.

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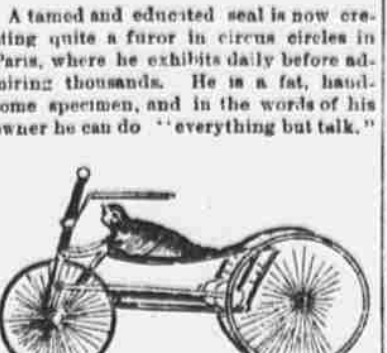
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HERE'S AN EDUCATED SEAL.

A Wonderful Phoccean That Astonishes Parisian Circus-Goers.

He's an Equestrian, Trapezist, Character and Tricyclist.



A tamed and educated seal is now creating quite a furor in circus circles in Paris, where he exhibits daily before admiring thousands. He is a fat, handsome specimen, and in the words of his owner he can do "everything but talk."

The *Republican Francien* devotes a long illustrated article to the performances of this knowing animal.

According to this statement the seal was captured, when a baby, in Russian waters. Its parents were made captives at the same time. They pined in duration and finally died, leaving their young offspring alone to battle with the cruel waves of adversity.

The little fellow was eventually sold to a fisherman in Orleans, whose first idea was to bring him up and then kill him for his skin. When he became better acquainted with the seal, though, he changed his mind.

The funny orphan displayed so much intelligence and confidence in his owner that the latter did not have the heart to kill him, so he took him to his humble home and made a family pet of him.

He is glad now that he did so, because the seal is making more money for him every day than even his skin would bring in market.

He has named the seal *Fernando*, and taught him all sorts of tricks, and exhibits him in *Fernando's* circus every day in Paris.

When *Fernando* was six years old he displayed evidence of such histrionic ability that his master determined to take him from Orleans to Paris and let him appear in public there.

Small sprays of white hydrangeas, white locust, peach blossoms, petunias and little daisies are new for millinery, while snowballs, violets, cowslips, lilacs and daffodils are used for ballroom garniture as reception and dancing dresses.



ITS EQUESTRIAN ACT.

Fernando will come when he is called, shake hands, or offer his flipper to shake hands with, to any one who is introduced to him, and all with a serene gravity that is laughable.

Fernando and his owner have apartments in a hotel in Montmartre, and the seal's bed-chamber is fitted up with a water-tank, in which he swims at pleasure.

On five days he tramps along at a lively clip with his owner to the exhibition, but on rainy days he insists on being taken in a carriage.

When the rain, curiously enough, and is always melancholy and out of sorts during stormy weather.

He has made friends with all the children in the neighborhood of his hotel, and when not at the circus he goes out and plays with them. They used to try and feed him with candy, but he would not eat it. Now they find that he is not always ready to devour fish of any kind.

At the circus he rides a horse and velocipede and also performs on a trapeze made especially for himself.

He seems to delight in water and reckless riding, and can never travel to suit him. He stands up beside the chariot in the chariot races, and his ever twinkling and snap with all the excitement of the race.

When his conveyance wins he is satisfied, but if he loses he grows irritable and insists to stay in the chariot for another go.

IN A CHARIOT RACE.

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New York's comic opera stage is to be greatly enhanced by the reappearance of Geraldine Ulmer, who sailed for this side June 22, she having resigned from the Savoy Theatre company in London, following upon the quarrel between Gilbert and Sullivan. New York will greet her with open arms. For Miss Ulmer has ever acknowledged the beau ideal of comic opera queens, to which position her youth, beauty and ability have elevated her.

A good plan to cure frowning is to tie a tight, smooth band of broad ribbon about the forehead when writing, studying or sewing.

Mrs. Clara Simmon, of Vancouver, is writing a botany especially adapted to the flora of the State of Washington.

Indoor exercise is also in a healthy state of development in this town, says *Chatter*. Boxing and fencing were never so popular. It used to be the case that men boxed and wielded the foils only with male antagonists, but a change has lately come upon us in this regard. There are now women in plenty—thanks to the influence of the Berkeley Club and lesser organizations—who fairly revel in a bout with the stuffed backskin and who can thrust and defend themselves with a remarkable force and dexterity. They are also expert fencers. It is not an unusual sight to see a few who are thus privileged—in a more than one Fifth Avenue home to see an athletic brother hard at work for an hour each morning, parrying for points with an engaging and steel-tipped sister. At least one noteworthy west-end-merchant, who frankly admits that his handsome young wife is too much for him with the foils, and that it gives him all he can do to best her with the boxing gloves.

Wants Something to Eat.
Pianist—I can't agree to give you wages just yet, but I'll make some provisional arrangement with you.
Uncle Ned (sneering)—That's what I want, more provisions!

She—It is said that Miss Scrammotti is passionately fond of jewels, but cannot bear to have her ears pierced.
He—Yes! I should think she would show a little pity for her admirers, then!

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Pianist—I can't agree to give you wages just yet, but I'll make some provisional arrangement with you.
Uncle Ned (sneering)—That's what I want, more provisions!

CYCLES AND POPULAR SONGS.

Melodies of To-Day Copied from Favorites of Fifty Years Ago.

Pleasing Plagiarisms from Old-Time Music—Origin of "Hold the Fort."

It is interesting to study the evolution of popular songs and favorite hymns. Says a correspondent of the *New Orleans Picayune*: "The meaning of song goes deep," says a noted writer. And so it does. Often, however, the original meaning of a song, or the music to which it is set, is a very different from the later interpretations.

Take "Home, Sweet Home," for instance. How it has swept the world's heartstrings since John Howard Payne, "the man without a home," wrote it in 1822. Yet it was part of an opera which proved a dismal failure. The words are too beautiful and altogether would not be called good poetry, and it is doubtful if they would have carried people by storm had it not been for the exquisite air to which they were adapted. And the air is said to be taken from an old Persian or Arabian love song.

This song, however, living in its borrowed music, won Mr. Payne such lasting honors that, years after his death, a rich American dug up his bones and brought them to the country to be buried again.

Other specimens of metamorphosed meaning equally striking could be quoted by columns. Our patriotic "America," stanzas exactly like "Main of Athens," "Queen" and "Yankee Doodle" was borrowed by our embattled forefathers from an old ditty and turned into a defiant jingle.

Here are some more recent oddities as regards the transformation of popular songs. When the *Holms Nest* again, "Wait 'Till the Clouds Roll By" begins as does the "Blue Bells of Scotland." "Gummiel, Gummiel, of the Shamrock" is of the same musical idea as "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood."

Any one comparing Dixie's great success with the old song, "The Flying Trapeze," will find that there is but a slight modification. By a change of key and the addition of a few notes, a difference made between the "Spanish Cavalier" and the chorus of "Peek-a-Boo."

"Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star, or Will You Marry Me at the Altar" which met with so much favor in "Joshua Whitcomb," is so closely allied to "Claribel" and "You and I," that they hardly be distinguished.

"All on Account of Eliza," from the opera "Billie Taylor," is nothing less than "How Lovely Are the Messengers" from Mendelssohn's oratorio of "St. Paul." Think of it! One of the grandest of sacred chorals "transmogrified" into comic opera!

And last, but not least, that stirring hymn, "Hold the Fort," is, so far as the music is concerned, an ancient German drinking-song.

THE BOWERY IN EARLY TIMES.

A Historic Roadway Which Has Never Seen a Church.

The Bowery is a mile of history. No other street tells so much of the story of the Republic and its metropolis, says Felix Oldboy in *Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly*.

A trail of the warlike Wickquaskeeks when yet the primeval forest overshadowed the island of Manhattan and Indian village occupied the future site of Chinatown Square; a bridge-path to the homestead of the last and greatest of the Dutch governors, the Fort of Stuyvesant, whose Bowery gave its name to the roadway which his English successors widened and improved; a country post-crested upon its hillside, and yet it has always been typical of city life, and the story of New York would be shorn of much of its glory were it not for the mile of the street which stretches between Chinatown Square and the Cooper Union.

From first to last it has had the strange distinction of never having seen a church erected upon its hillside, and yet it has always been typical of city life, and the story of New York would be shorn of much of its glory were it not for the mile of the street which stretches between Chinatown Square and the Cooper Union.

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